

A N
ACCOUNT

OF THE

Pedigree and Actions

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SIMON FRASER,

Lord *LOVAT,*

From his BIRTH to the Time of his being
Taken by Capt. *Miller*, in a hollow Tree
in the Highlands of *SCOTLAND,*

AND

His Imprisonment in the Tower of *London,*
August, 15, 1746,

For AIDING and ASSISTING the

R E B E L S

In ARMS against his MAJESTY King
G E O R G E II.

D U B L I N:

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A N
A C C O U N T
 O F T H E
Pedigree and Actions
 O F
S I M O N F R A S E R,
 Lord L O V A T, &c.

AFTER a Succession of several Heirs from Father to Son, during which Time this Family intermarried with many Noble Families in *Scotland*, the Honours and Estate of *Lovat* became vested in the Person of *Hugh* Lord *Lovat*, who married a Daughter of the Earl of *Weems*, by whom he had Issue two Sons, *Hugh* Master of *Lovat*, and *Thomas*, called *Thomas Fraser* of *Beaufort*. *Hugh* married a Daughter of the Earl of *Lesly*'s, afterwards Earl of *Leven*, by whom he had a Son named *Hugh*; the Master of *Lovat* predeceased his Father, and upon the Death of *Hugh* the last Lord *Lovat*, he was succeeded by his Grand Child, who married a Sister of the Earl of *Cromarty*'s; by this Lady he had Issue.

Hugh the last Lord of that Name; his Lordship married a Daughter of the Marquis of *Arbol*'s, but dying

dying in the Year 1696 without Issue Male of his Body, his Lordship, by Settlement, made in his Life-time, limited the Honours and Estate of *Lovat* to his eldest Daughter and the Heirs of her Body.

Thomas Frazer of *Beaufort* above mentioned, married a Daughter of the Laird of *M'Leod*, and had Issue three Sons and a Daughter, *Alexander*, *Simon*, the present Lord *Lovat*, *John*, and *Sibilla*: Upon the Death of the last mentioned *Hugh* Lord *Lovat*, and of the said *Thomas*, and *Alexander* his Son without Issue Male, *Simon* the second Son was the next Heir in the Male Line, and as such claimed the Honours and Estate of *Lovat*, notwithstanding the above Settlement, and insisted that by the Course of feudal Succession the same ought to descend to him.

Simon Lord *Lovat*, descended of the Family of *Lovat* as above, was born at *Beaufort* near *Inverness* in the Highlands of *Scotland* in the Year 1668, and his Father having died when he was very young, he was sent to the Laird of *M'Leod*, who had the Care and Direction of his Education; after some Years spent at the Grammar School in reading the learned Languages, he was sent to the King's College in the University of *Aberdeen*, where he applied himself to the study of the Sciences, and by the great Progress he made in several Branches of Learning, discovered a surprizing Genius; after he had finished his Studies at the University, and having but a distant Prospect of a Fortune, he turned his Thoughts to the Army, and about the Year 1692, by the Interest of the Family of *Atbol*, procured a Company in the Lord *Tullibardin's* Regiment, where he served for some Time; but some Misunderstanding arising between him and the Marquis of *Atbol*, he resigned his Commission and quitted the Service; the Occasion whereof was, that the Captain claimed Right to the Honours and Estate

Estate of *Lovat*, as Heir Male, in preference to the eldest Daughter of the last *Hugh Lord Lovat*, Grandchild to the Marquiss; but in order to secure the Possession of the Honours and Estate to her, the Marquiss proposed to Captain *Frazer*, that he should convey and make over his Right to the same to her, and in consideration thereof the Marquiss engaged to promote him in the Army, but the Captain with a noble Indignation rejected the Proposal, and utterly refused to make such a Renunciation, protesting that no earthly Consideration should ever induce him to sell his Birthright, by which he was entitled to the Estate of *Lovat* and to be *Chief of the Frasers*: This Refusal greatly incensed the Family of *Atbol*, and determined them to leave no Stone unturned to ruin him, and defeat his Pretensions; but not intimidated thereat, he resolved the more firmly to assert his Right, and foil the Attempts of his Enemies. His first Essay was to endeavour to get the late Lord *Lovat's* Daughter, who was then look'd upon as Heiress of *Lovat*, to marry him, and by that Means to unite both their Pretensions and Interests, and put an End to all Disputes; but failing in this, he endeavoured to bring about a Marriage with the Lady Dowager her Mother, who was then in his Power; by this Means he hoped to carry his grand Point, for as this would secure to him the present Possession of the Estate, so if he should have Issue of that Marriage a Son, such Son would stand in the same Degree of Relation to the Marquiss of *Atbol* as the Heiress did, and therefore it was to be presumed, he would not oppose the Succession of that Issue to the Honours and Estate of *Lovat*; by that Means he flattered himself that the Views of both Parties would be reconciled.

In Prosecution of this Scheme he applied to the Lady Dowager for her Consent to marry him; but this she absolutely refused, alledging that her Brother the Marquiss would never agree to any Thing
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of that sort, and that it would be attended with fatal Consequences, she conjured him not to use any violent Methods against a defenceless Woman, who was not able to oppose him, promising solemnly that she would endeavour to bring about a Reconciliation between him and the Family of *Asthol*, and procure him the Heiress of *Lovat* for a Wife. But the Captain resolved to make use of the Opportunity he then had to force her to a Compliance. For that End he put all her Servants out of the way, or secured them so that they might not be Witnesses of what was to be acted; he then got a Minister, who pretended to perform a Marriage Ceremony, but without the least mark of Consent on the Part of the Lady. This Farce being over, the Captain, with the Assistance of some of his faithful Myrmidons, set about undressing the Lady, but she resisting with all her Force, and filling the House with Cries and Lamentations, one of the trusty Band made use of a Weapon called a *Durk* to cut the Lace of her Stays, and after having dragg'd off her Cloaths, they put her forcibly into Bed; and our Bridegroom performed the first Feat of Consummation, in the Presence of his Desperadoes.

The Rumour of this Marriage, which happened in the Year 1695, being spread abroad, and the Marquis having Intelligence of it, applied immediately for Justice, and having obtained a Warrant to apprehend the Captain, he procured a Party of Dragoons to enforce the Execution of it. Upon this the Captain was obliged to remove from *Castle-doury*, and taking his Lady along with him, he retired to an obscure Place called the Isle of *Agis*, where he lay concealed for some Weeks, during which Time, in order to give a proper Sanction to what had been done before, and to remove the Lady's Doubts about the Legality of their Marriage, the Minister was again sent for, when the same was

a second Time solemnized : But the Captain being sensible that he could not remain there long concealed, and knowing what Search was making to apprehend him, judged it necessary to separate himself for some time from his Lady. The Lady, who had then conceived a great Affection for him, as he pretends, was much afflicted at the Thoughts of a Separation, apprehending, that if she came once in the Power of the Marquis, she would be compell'd to disclaim that Marriage, and swear a Rape against him ; but the Captain insisted that it would be impossible for her to escape, and that it would be more eligible for her to return to her own House, and endeavour to make up Matters with her Brother, and that he would in the mean Time evade the Prosecution against himself, and defend himself in the remote Highlands, and by the Assistance of some of his *Frasers*, repel the Attacks of his Enemies.

From that Time, the Captain, accompanied by some of his Clan, lived a wandering Life in the Woods and on the Mountains, and was subsisted sometimes by Plunder, at other Times by voluntary Contributions of some Highlanders, to whom he sent in the Night-time for some Provisions and Necessaries of Life.

The Lady Dowager was taken and carried to *Dunkeld*, when a Prosecution for a Rape was commenced against the Captain in the High Court of Justiciary in *Scotland*, and according to the Law and Practice of that Country, he was, in absence, tried, convicted, and condemned, as being guilty of ravishing the Lady Dowager of *Lovat*, and by this Sentence the pretended Marriage was in Law deemed null and void.

One Misfortune was soon followed by another, for there was a second Prosecution set on foot against the Captain for treasonably levying War, and with an armed Force opposing the Execution
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of the Law ; upon this Account he was also, in absence, tried, and condemned, as a Traitor : But notwithstanding the above Sentences of Condemnation, in Virtue whereof, he was intercommuned or outlawed, and Letters of Fire and Sword issued against him, the Captain continued in the Country wandering up and down in the same Manner as before, being supplied with the Necessaries of Life by some friendly and well disposed Persons, who thereby rendered themselves obnoxious to the Law, for aiding and corresponding with a Person who was out of the Protection thereof : But being at last reduced to great Misery and extremities, and perceiving that nothing could be done in that Way of Life that could change the Face of his Affairs, he grew at last weary of it, and began to entertain Thoughts of procuring a Pardon for his past Offences : With this View, in the Year 1699, he made his Court to one Mr. *Castairs*, a Presbyterian Minister, who had been very zealous and instrumental in bringing about the glorious Revolution, and was a Person of considerable interest at Court : He recommended the Captain to King *William* as a proper Object of his Royal Clemency, and his Majesty was pleased to grant him a Pardon, but that being an Offence committed against a particular Person and Family, made it of a private, as well as publick Nature, and ought not therefore to be remitted, without proper Satisfaction, or the Consent of the Party injured. Our Captain reaped no great Advantage from this Pardon, as the Sentence upon account of the Rape still hung over him ; being sensible of this, and that his Enemies were by far an overmatch for him, he determined to retire privately to *France*, and there wait for better Times.

About the Beginning of the Year 1701, Captain *Frazer*, arrived in *France*, and repaired to the Court of *St. Germain*, where the late King *James* then resided ; he got himself introduced as
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an unfortunate Nobleman, who had been long oppressed by the Malice and Power of his Enemies in *Scotland*; but at the same Time represented himself as having an Influence and Acquaintance in the Highlands of *Scotland*, which might be serviceable to that Court in their future Designs. And being a Man of good Address, he in a short Time insinuated himself into some Degree of Favour, but particularly recommended himself to the Confidence and Esteem of the Duke of *Perth*, one of the Prime Ministers at that Court. The Captain's Credit at *St. Germain's* was in a great Measure owing to the good Offices of the *Pope's* Nuncio, then at the *French* Court, to whom he got himself introduced, and recommended as one that was desirous of becoming a Convert to the Church of *Rome*. He considered that as a necessary Qualification to entitle him to Favour and Credit at the Court of *St. Germain's*, and formerly renounced the Protestant, and embraced the Roman Catholick Religion. Soon after he was made known to the Marquis *de Torcy*, the great Favourite of *Lewis XIV.* Being a Man of Wit and Gallantry, he had likewise the good Fortune of working himself into the Favour of the Ladies at the *French* Court; and he often boasted of *Madam Maintenon's* having rallied him on Account of his Intimacy with the Court Ladies, telling him, "*Les Dames, Monsieur, vous regardent comme un homme ravissant.*" alluding to the Rape he had committed in *Scotland*. Certain it is he now began to be looked upon as a Person of some Consequence at the Courts of *Versailles* and *St. Germain's*. He had at last the Honour of kissing the *French* King's Hand, and was admitted to a private Audience upon the Subject of an Invasion of these Kingdoms, which was then projecting in Favour of the Pretender. Some Days before the Captain was informed by the Marquis *de Torcy* of the Honour that was designed him; and being willing to acquit himself

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himself handsomely upon so great an Occasion, he prepared an elegant and pompous Harrangue, and had been at great Pains to make himself Master of it: Accordingly the Day appointed being come, the Captain was introduced by his Friend the Marquiss to the King's Closet; but the Magnificence and Splendour of the Court, or the Awe of the grand Monarque, had such a powerful Effect upon him, that when he approached the King, he quite forgot his Speech and appeared in great Confusion; but in a few Minutes recovering himself a little, he addressed the King with an *extempore* Speech in an easy and unaffected manner, and very pertinent to the Occasion. After the Captain had withdrawn, the King observing the Marquiss smile, asked him the Reason of it? he told his Majesty of the Captain's having forgot his studied Speech: with which the King was highly diverted, and said his Behaviour shewed him to be a Man of ready Wit and Natural Elocution.

After the Death of the unfortunate King *James* the II. which happen'd on the 6th of *November* 1701, the Court at *St. Germain*s resolved upon something in Favour of the Pretender, and that was an Invasion and Insurrection in the Highlands of *Scotland*. Our Captain was pitched upon as a proper Person to pave the Way, and prepare Matters for the Execution of that Design. For that End he was honoured with a Major General's Commission (others say that of a Colonel of Foot only) and furnished with Powers and Credentials to treat with the Noblemen and Gentlemen in *Scotland*, who were attached to that Interest, and particularly the Chiefs of the Clans. He was likewise provided with some Arms and Ammunition, and with a Sum of Money from the Court of *France*. Thus authorized and provided, Captain *Frazer* set out from *Paris*, attended by two Gentlemen sent by the Ministry at *St. Germain*s to be a Check upon him, and Witnesses of the faithful

ful Execution of the Trust reposed in him. He embarked at *Dunkirk*, and arrived in *Scotland* about the latter End of the Year 1702.

Upon his Arrival in *Scotland* he communicated his Orders and Instructions to the Chiefs of the Clans and Others, and consulted with them about the intended Insurrection : But in the Course of his Treaties and Negotiations he met with great Discouragements, occasioned by the Suspicions the Gentlemen in the Country entertained of him ; for his old Enemies in the North prepossessed the Minds of the People, as if he was a Person not properly authorized to treat with them, or one of so infamous a Character, as not to be trusted in an Affair of that Importance. These and the like Insinuations rendered our Captain's Endeavours ineffectual, and obliged him to desist from prosecuting a Matter in which he met with so much Opposition ; he thereupon went privately to the Duke of *Queensbury*, imploring his Graces Protection, and intreated that he would be pleased to procure him a Pass to *France* ; and the more readily to obtain this, he discovered the Plot that was then in Agitation. The Captain having got a Pass, returned to *France* ; and upon his Arrival at the Court of *St. Germains* he made a Report of his Negotiations in *Scotland*, and of the Causes of the Miscarriage thereof ; charging, that the Malice and unreasonable Opposition he met with from his Enemies there, was what rendered his Endeavours abortive : But his private Correspondence with the Duke of *Queensbury* and some others of that Party, being known at *St. Germains* made him violently suspected of having betrayed his Trust : And though the Captain alledged, in his own Defence, that the main Design of that Correspondence was to procure a Pass, that he might thereby be enabled to avoid the Persecution of his inveterate Enemies, and render him the more

capable of serving the Interest of that Court, yet he met with so little Credit in that Matter, that a Complaint was made at the *French* Court of his Misconduct and foul Miscarriage, in betraying the Trust reposed in him. In consequence of this Complaint he was, by virtue of an Arrest, apprehended and committed Prisoner to the *Bastile*, where he remained for several Years.

During his Imprisonment, he had no Opportunity of doing any thing worth Notice : This determined him to apply his Thoughts to Spiritual matters, he formed a Resolution of entering into Holy Orders, and communicated his Intentions to some of the Clergy, and got them to inform his old Friend the *Pope's* Nuncio of his Pious Resolution. The Captain had by this Time acquired a perfect mastery in the *French* Tongue ; and his Learning, and great Capacity to promote the Interest of the Church, were strongly represented and urged in his Favour. By the Interposition and friendly Assistance of the *Pope's* Nuncio and some other Clergymen, he procured his Release from the *Bastile* in the Year 1708, and in a short Time thereafter was admitted into the Holy Order and Profession of a Jesuit. In that Capacity he resided and had a Living at St. Omer's for several Years, where he distinguished himself for his Learning and Piety, and discharged his Holy Office with universal Applause, and to the Admiration of his ignorant and deluded Flock.

On a Prospect of the Troubles that threatened these Kingdoms by the Death of *Queen Anne*, our Jesuit abandoned his Sacerdotal Office, and pretending a Necessity of going some Way into the Country upon Important Business, set out for *England*, and in *September*, 1715, he arrived in *London*, and went to some of his particular Friends, and consulted with them how he should avail himself of the Troubles that were then beginning. The first Thing necessary to be done, was to procure a
 Pass

Pass for him into *Scotland*, [which by Favour of the late Duke of *Argyle* and Mr. *Forbes* of *Cullodon*, he soon obtained, under the borrowed Name of Captain *Brown*, as they had Reason to believe he might be Instrumental in quelling the Rebellion. With this Passport the Captain, set out for *Edinburgh*. There he lay concealed for some Time, waiting till a Ship could be got to carry him to the North of *Scotland*; for the Country was then up in Arms, and no possibility of Travelling by Land. In the mean Time our Captain's Enemies had Intelligence of his being in *Edinburgh*, and upon an Information thereof to the Lord Justice Clerk, his Lordship granted a Warrant to apprehend him, as a Person condemned by Law and intercommuned, or outlawed. A party of the Town-guard were ordered to assist in the Execution of the Warrant, and agreeable to the Information, they went to a House in the *Grass-market*, where the Captain lodged, and made him their Prisoner. Here his Adventures must have ended, had it not been for a happy Occurrence: The Officer who commanded the Party proved to be an old Acquaintance of his; he expressed his Concern for the Captain, and promised to serve him, if possible, upon that perilous Occasion. Accordingly an Expedient was agreed upon: The Captain told him his Intention of going into the North on the Service of his Majesty King *George*; that he went by the Name of *Brown*, and had a Passport from the Secretary of State: He considered that the then Provost of *Edinburgh* was his good Friend, to whom the Officer went as his Colonel, and acquainted him of the Affair. The Provost thereupon directed him to discharge the Warrant and set the Captain at Liberty, as it appeared that the Warrant was executed by mistake upon Captain *Brown*, instead of Captain *Frazer*, who was the Person specified. Upon this our Captain was happily set at Liberty, and escaped for this Time the Danger

ger that threatned him. He changed his Lodgings immediately ; and, a few Days after, a Vessel having been provided, sailed for *Inverness* ; but by contrary Winds the Ship was forced to put into *Frazerburgh*. The Captain and Mr. *Forbes* of *Culloden*, who attended him to the North to assist in his Majesty's Service, must have been exposed to great Difficulties and Dangers, if it had not been for the Friendly care of one Mr. *Baillie*, Town-Clerk of *Frazerburgh*, to whom they made themselves known. He found means to provide them with Horses, to carry them to *Culloden House*, the Seat of the Lord President of *Scotland*, (now become famous for the late glorious Victory there obtained by his Royal Highness the Duke of *Cumberland* over the Rebels) where they safely arrived in *November*, 1715, after a hazardous and fatiguing Journey. The first Thing to be resolved on by the Captain was, what Part he should take in the present Troubles ; but as his grand End and Design, and which he always kept in View, was to recover the Honours and Estate of *Lovat*, his Determination in that Matter depended upon another Point, and that was the Behaviour of *Frazerdale*, who, was then in Possession of that Estate. But when he was certainly informed, that *Frazerdale* had raised a Body of Men, and taken up Arms for the Pretender, he no longer hesitated what Side he should chuse, but repaired immediately to those of his Clan who had remained faithful to him, and were by the Vigilance and good Conduct of some of his special Friends gathered together and armed ready to act for the Captain, whom they regarded as *their lawful and rightful Chief*. They received him with great Joy, and acknowledged him as their natural Head, declaring that they were ready to assist him in all his Designs, and espouse whatever Cause he should take in Hand. The Captain improved this submissive and zealous Disposition in his *Frasers*, he declared for the Govern-

Government, and joined the Well-affected in that Part of the Country. His appearing so seasonably was attended with very good Effects, for he assisted in driving a considerable Body of the Rebels out of the Town and Castle of *Inverness*, and contributed greatly to keep the Disaffected in Awe, and to preserve the Peace in that Part of the Country.

After the suppression of the Rebellion, his Lordship's Loyalty and great Services were by his Friends greatly magnified at Court : And in consideration thereof they recommended him first of all to the King's Favour for a Pardon, for all his former Crimes and Offences, which his Majesty was graciously pleased to grant. *Frazerdale*, being concerned in the Rebellion, was attainted, and thereby forfeited his Interest and Estate for Life in the Lands and Barony of *Lovat*, which became escheated to the Crown : An Application was thereupon made to the late King in behalf of his Lordship, setting forth his Right and Pretensions to the Honours and Estate of *Lovat* ; in consequence whereof his Majesty, as a further Mark of his Favour and Reward of his Services, was graciously pleased to make him a Gift of *Frazerdale's Life-Rent Escheat*, in Virtue of which his Lordship entered into immediate Possession of the Estate, and renewed his Claim to the Honours and Dignity, which he at length obtained.

Since the Year 1715, his Lordship had many Obligations to the Government : Amongst the rest, his late Majesty was graciously pleased to appoint him Lord Lieutenant of the County and Governor of *Inverness*, and bestowed a Pension and other Marks of Favour upon him, in particular the Command of a Highland Independant Company, which with several other Independant Companies was raised a few Years after the Rebellion in 1715, to preserve the Peace of the Highlands. His Majesty was not unacquainted with the Character of Lord *Lovat*, he was doubtless sensible of the Motives and Views that

that prevailed with him to act in the manner he had done in suppressing the above Rebellion, and that his appearing for the Government might probably be contrary to his Principles and secret Inclinations : But the King heaped Favours upon him, the more effectually to gain and secure him by Interest, which was known to be his Lordship's strongest Tye, to co-operate in the service of the Government. Afterwards, the Highlands being disarmed, and in a perfect state of Tranquility and Subjection, Lord *Lovat's* former Services were forgotten, and he was thought no longer of any Consequence to the Government ; whereupon in the Year, 1738, he was stripped of his Pension, and deprived of his Command, and every other Mark of the Favour of the Government.

His Lordship, upon the Court's withdrawing their Favours from him, discovered very early his Disgust and Disatisfaction, and his constant Conversation and Speeches proclaimed that his Discontent was grown to Disaffection, and ripe for Rebellion. Whoever considers his Influence amongst the Clans, will not think it strange that he should have greatly contributed to dispose them to take that Part which many of them have daringly avowed : The Countenance he has given to our Enemies, and his secret Practices with them, will come to Light hereafter : But as something more than private Negotiations became necessary, he resolved to assist the Pretender's Son with his Forces ; the unhappy Master of *Lovat* his Son, was to fall a Sacrifice, and be the Instrument of carrying on this Design, in order to screen himself from a Charge of High Treason, and to avoid the Consequences of an Attainder. Soon after the Battle of *Preston Pans*, 500 of the *Frasers* were assembled and armed, and sent to join the Rebels at *Perth* ; and Lord *Lovat* was every Day more daring and open in his Proceedings, which determined Lord *Loudon*, who was then at
Inverness

Inverness, to put a Stop thereto : He marched with some hundreds of his Men to *Castledouny*, and sent Lord *Lovat* a message, in the King's Name, to attend him to *Inverness*, and deliver up what Arms he had in his Possession. Lord *Lovat* not finding himself in a Condition to resist that Force, submitted to go along with Lord *Loudon*, and remain at *Inverness* as a Security for his peaceable Behaviour, and accordingly staid there for some Days, but delayed, upon sham Pretences, to perform his Promise as to delivering up the Arms ; and at last, notwithstanding he was strictly looked after, and Centinels placed at his Lodgings, he found means to break through the back Part of the House in the Night Time, and made his Escape. After that Time, he was Instrumental in fomenting and carrying on the Rebellion, by raising and arming the Highlanders, and alarming them with Fears of being extirpated and destroyed by the Kings Troops with Fire and Sword, and persuading them there was no other means left for their Preservation, but by having Recourse to Arms to defend their Lives, Properties, and Families, from the Rapine and Violence of their Enemies : It is reported, that in order to inforce this matter, and make a deeper Impression upon their Minds, he published a Manifesto or Declaration to the above Effect, and made it be read publickly in the *Kirks* on a Sunday. His Son was at the Head of the *Frasers* at the famous Battle of *Cullodon* on the 16th of *April*, 1746, where they behaved with their wonted Courage and Resolution. There are no certain Accounts whether his Lordship was in the Action or not ; but it is certain he took his flight into the Mountains, and concealed himself in his old Haunts and lurking Places, till the Month of *June*, when he was taken in a hollow Tree by Capt. *Miller*, and committed Prisoner to the Tower of *London* the 15th of *August* following.

Lord *Lovat*, as to his Person, makes an odd and grotesque Figure, he is generally more loaded with Cloaths than a Dutchman with nine or ten pair of Breeches ; he is tall in Stature and walks very upright, considering his great Age, and is tollerably well shaped ; he has a large Mouth and short Nose, with Eyes very much contracted and down looking, a very small Forehead, almost all covered with a large Periwig ; this gives him a sour and grim Aspect, but upon addressing himself to any one, he puts on a smiling and obliging Countenance, which is not at all disagreeable : He is near sighted, and affects to be much more so than he really is : He was naturally of a robust and vigorous Constitution, and a strong and active Body, hardened by Fatigue, inured to Hunger and Thirst, Heat and Cold, and improved by all Manly Exercises ; but his long Confinement in the Bastile had greatly impaired his Constitution ; he has however taken such Care of himself, that he still preserves a Degree of Health and Vigour very uncommon at so advanced an Age. He is a Man of some share of Learning, and of great Parts and Abilities of Mind, His universal Experience and great Attention to Political Matters has made him acquainted with Men as well as Books : He is Polite, affable and agreeable in Conversation, and so great a Master in Flattery and Dissimulation, that he generally pleases and gains the good Will, if not the Esteem, of those he Converses with, however prejudiced or prepossessed they might have been against him. His Knowledge of the History and Genealogy of all the great Families in Scotland contributes not a little to this, for there is no Person in that Country, but he will make out to be a Relation or Ally of some Noble or Antient Family, or a Descendant of some Virtuous or Illustrious Hero. In this Tradition, History, he pays little regard to Truth, provided he can give his Story the Air of Probability : He
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seems to entertain his Guests with the utmost Cheerfulness and Hospitality, but being sordidly Avaricious, he grumbles privately at the least Expence; and though to their Faces he Caresses them, yet no sooner do they turn their Backs, than he pronounces Curses and Excretions against them for the Trouble and Charge they put him to. He is Ambitious and Proud, but when it serves his Turn, Cringing, Mean and Fawning. He is Crafty and Subtle, but at Times open and unguarded in his Speeches and Actions, and that even in matters of great Concern; by this means he has frequently involved himself in Dangers and Difficulties; but he is very fertile in Expedients, and has, almost, always, being hitherto successful in extricating himself out of such Scrapes: His restless and active Disposition conduces not a little to draw him into Snares, but a ready Invention and a bold and speedy Execution helps him out of them: He is much addicted to Enthusiasm and Superstitious Notions, by which he is greatly governed in many Cases: In Business he is unjust and unconscionable, and avows that his own Profit or Pleasure has always been the Rule of his Actions, and to that he has on all Occasions sacrificed every other Consideration; this has led him to Violence, Rapes, Cruelty, Revenge, Treachery, and every base and infamous Practice when it suited his Purpose; this has made him put himself into all Shapes and Appearances, and therefore rendered him detested and despised by all Good and Virtuous People, dreaded by some, and scorned and derided by others. He is Naturally Brave and Resolute, and though, as to invisible Powers, he is Fearful and Timid, and as to his Health and the lesser Accidents of Life, scrupulous to a Degree of Pusillanimity, yet in Time of imminent Danger he is Bold and undaunted: He is of an amorous and falacious Temper, but for many Years past, he has been very cautious in Respect to Women of Rank,
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being sensible that Intrigues of that Sort are often attended with disagreeable Consequences; he therefore made his Addresses to the lowest and meanest of the Female Sex, and by that means tasted all the Sweets without an Allay of the Bitters of Love, besides his absolute Sway over them, saved him the Trouble of a long and laborious Courtship, which he had but little Time for on Account of the multiplicity of his Affairs: In fine, he is a cruel and oppressive Master, an imperious and outrageous Husband, a tyrannical and severe Parent, a false hearted and treacherous Friend, and an arbitrary and despotick Chief.

To conclude, it may be looked upon as a strange Phænomenon, not easily to be accounted for, that his Lordship being a Person of great Penetration and long Experience in Business, who had for many Years struggled with powerful Enemies, and with Poverty and Distress, and at last conquered them all; (which he boasted he had done without Effusion of Human Blood in any one Instance, and therefore assumed for this Motto, SINE SANGUINE VICTOR;) and after he had established himself in the Right and Possession of that Title and Estate, which he had long contended for; he should now be drawn into a chimerical and desperate Scheme, in concert with a Nation that he knew to be treacherous and perfidious, which must end in his own Destruction, and the Ruin of his Family; The Motives of those concerned therein may be various, such as Enthusiasm, Madness, Ignorance, Poverty, and the like: And his last Conduct can hardly be accounted for any other Way, than by supposing that it proceeded from a deliberate and malignant Purpose to ruin and subvert our present Government, meerly because they have not thought fit to gratify his ambitious and avaritious Passions and Desires.

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